



PROGRESS REPORT NO. 74

TO: Dr. Laura Buelow – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - via Email
Matt Wilkening – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - via Email

FROM: Marko Adzic – Teck American Incorporated (TAI)

DATE: September 10, 2012 **FILE NO:** 01-773180-000

RE: Upper Columbia River (UCR) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
(RI/FS) - Progress Report No. 74 Month Ending August 2012

Pursuant to Paragraph 39 of the June 2, 2006 Settlement Agreement (Settlement Agreement), the following is intended to provide a summary of activities completed during the past month in compliance with the aforementioned Agreement. It is also intended to provide a brief summary of pending and on-going activities.

Comments on the draft final quality assurance project plan for the Phase 2 Sediment Study were received from EPA on August 27, 2012. Based on the direction on some of the comments, TAI will be disputing six comments in their entirety or portions thereof. Regardless of the dispute and consistent with the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement, TAI will modify the document based on comments not being disputed, and will continue to obtain permits for Phase 2 sediment sampling activities. We wish to confirm that permits /permission for sediment sampling activities as outlined within the draft final Phase 2 Sediment Study quality assurance project plan have been received from the Spokane Tribe of Indians and the Canadian Government (i.e., Natural Resources Canada).

A draft final surface water data summary report was submitted for EPA's review and approval on August 31, 2012. At the time of writing no comments have been received on the draft final document. Similarly at the time of writing, definitive timelines for the submission of draft reports associated with white sturgeon toxicity studies have not been determined. TAI will continue to work cooperatively with EPA in evaluating and determining appropriate schedules for the submission of the aforementioned draft reports.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 509-623-4585.